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Chief, ICAPS

1 Feb 1949

Asst Director OCD

Request for information relative to Atlantic Pact

Ref: ORE Secret Memo to OCD dated 24 Jan 1949 - copy enclosed.

1. Reference memorandum, copy of which is forwarded herewith, draws attention to a serious inadequacy. This Agency is being kept in ignorance of Western Union military developments by the Department of the Army, and is being kept in ignorance of Atlantic Pact proposals and negotiations by the State Department. CIA's responsibility for the preparation of estimates concerning the national security cannot be carried out under these circumstances.

2. It is believed that it is a function of ICAPS to remedy situations such as this. In the event of an unexpected international débâcle, whether military or political, the Central Intelligence Agency would be held accountable for failure to have provided advance warning. CIA could not hope to exonerate itself by asserting that other agencies had withheld vital information; for it would be pointed out, promptly and with reason, that we should have fought for the information with courage and energy at the time when we first became aware it was being withheld.

3. OCD's Liaison Officers have not been able to get the necessary information on the working level.

4. The Army Member of ICAPS is making valiant efforts to get the data on Western Union military developments from the Department of the Army.

5. It is requested that ICAPS take such steps as may be necessary to obtain the requisite political information concerning the Atlantic Pact from the Department of State. If this effort proves unsuccessful, then it is respectfully suggested that it would be in the interests of this Agency to ensure that State Department's refusal is set forth in writing for the record.

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James H. Andrews

cc: DCI, DDCI
AD/ORE

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REMARKS:

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